

I understand that Sinclair Broadcasting is forcing its stations to run an anti-Kerry documentary on air.

This is exactly why media consolidations are dangerous for democracy--NOT because it's about Kerry, but because Sinclair can (1) force its stations to run anything, or even DETERMINE that its stations OUGHT to run anything and (2) they can use their power to their political ends (3) only days before (one of the most important presidential elections of a lifetime) which violates campaign laws.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about things that really matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Thank you.